Amendment dated December 23, 2003 Reply to Office Action of October 3, 2003

## <u>REMARKS</u>

## The Examiner's Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Presently, claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Calamito et al.

The rejection is maintained on the basis that the prior amendment does not add structural limitations because it only states an intended use, i.e., to make an I-beam.

In response thereto, the claim has been amended to recite "An I-beam formed of a three-dimensional, five-axial fabric" rather than "A fabric for use." Second, a new dependent claim has been added which recites the longitudinal direction limitation as disclosed at Figure 11 and page 9 of the current application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the formation of an I-beam is not inherent to Calamito et al. Particularly, Calamito et al. does not teach or suggest a disclosure similar to the present invention's Figure 11, and page 9. This is the disclosure of the plurality of divisibly woven sections, S1 formed in the longitudinal direction of the threedimensional five-axial fabric while the divisibly woven sections S1.

On the other hand, Calamito et al. discloses slots, 24 which can be parallel to the width, w of the fabric and perpendicular to the length, I (longitude) (see col. 5, lines 28-40, Fig. 5). Also, Calamito et al. teaches toward filling these slots to strengthen or give certain properties to the fabric (see col. 3, lines 52-63).

Calamito et al. specifically teaches towards slots, 24 which are "completely contained within the cross-sectional elevation of the fabric between opposite top and bottom surfaces and opposite end surfaces for the fabric" (col. 2, lines 61-64). In other words, there is no teaching or suggestion in Calamito et al. to form uniform divisibly

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woven sections which are then cut along a center line to form an I-beam. This is now a

limitation of the present amended claim 3.

Wherefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention of amended

claim 3 and new claim 6 is not anticipated by Calamito et al.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that this application is now in

condition for allowance. If, for any reason, it is believed that this application is not in

condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned

attorney at the telephone number below to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for

an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time

and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No.

50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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